Instruction On Demand: Basics of Science Direct

The D'Azzo Research Library

Access

▸ All AFRL purchased databases are available from your desktop and use IP recognition for access (Science Direct is therefore not available off-base):

http://www.afrl.af.mil/wrslibrary/

Scope of Science Direct

▸ Science Direct contains over 25% of the world's science, technology and medical full text and bibliographic information.

▸ Apart from online eBooks, Reference Works, Handbooks and Book Series, Science Direct offers a rich journal collection of over 2,500 titles.

Science Direct Subscriptions by broad subject area
(journals with full text)

▸ Physical Science and Engineering - 697 titles

▸ Life Sciences – 577 titles

▸ Health Sciences – 766 titles

▸ Social Sciences and Humanities – 281 titles

Citation searching

▸ If you have a citation the <u>quickest</u> search is using the Advanced Search screen

▸ Fill in a few words of the title and the author's last name (you can put multiple authors' names)

▸ Use the drop-down

menus to describe

Navigation

▸ You can Browse to find the journal, book series or handbook.

▸ From the list, you may choose those that have a green key, indicating they are part of our subscription.

▸ Once you select one, you will be at the publication's home page.

Navigation - continued

▸ Initial results look like this:

▸ Click the plus (+) symbol or volume name to view the issue numbers, page ranges and dates within the volume:
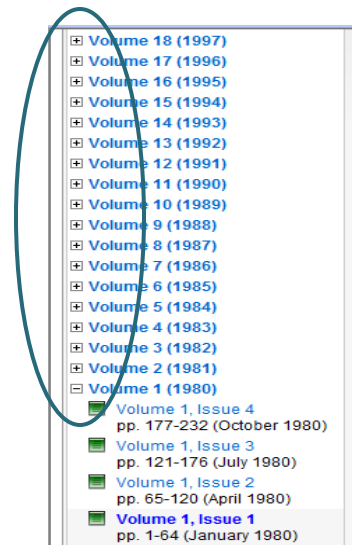
Topic Searching

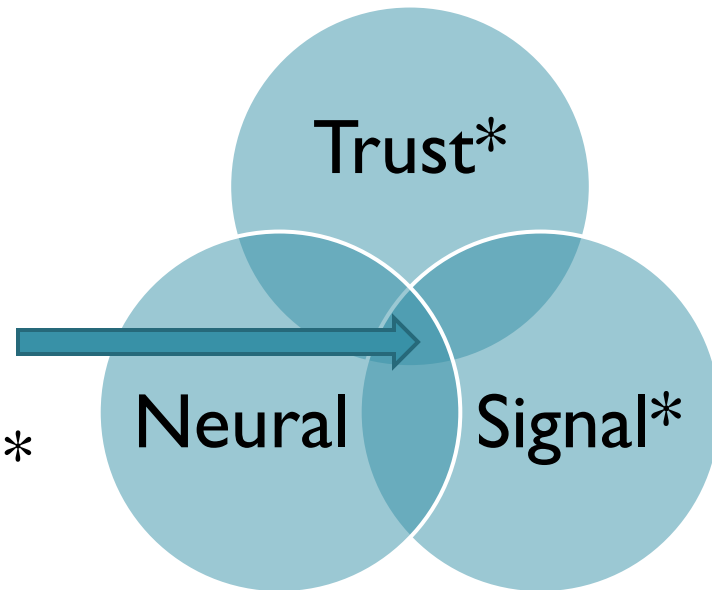▸ Try to be as specific as possible

▸ Does this area

represent the

information you

desire? It would

look like this typed

into a search box:

trust* and neural and signal*

Trust*

Neural

Signal*

Topic Searching – Boolean Review

- Each search box in Science Direct can take Boolean search strings such as: trust* and (assess* or model* or metric*) and (human or interpersonal) not (mice or rats)
- The '*' is the commonly used character for wildcards
- Be sure to place your parentheses around the 'ORs' for a clearer search

Removing unwanted results

▸ Put the 'not' section on the second line, choose 'AND NOT' from the drop-down menu

Narrowing things down by adding terms

▸ Different domains often use the same terminology which can greatly affect the quality of your search

▸ If you are aware or become aware of this through your first iterations, try to <u>add</u> more terms specific to your domain

▸ Example: communications can mean something that happens between people or between computers

Alerts

▸ You will need to register in order to create Alerts

▸ Select Alerts from the top menu bar

▸ Register

▸ After you login, perform your search as usual

▸ At the top of your results list you can Edit Search, Save Search, Save as Search Alert or RSS Feed.
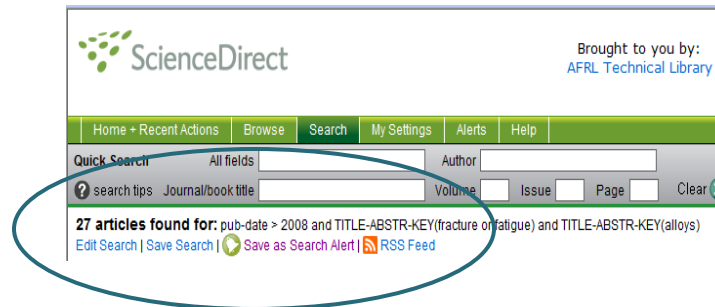
Alerts - continued

▸ Once you select Save as Search Alert, you will name your search and select how often you wish to receive updates

Getting the documents

▸ The results that have a green box are the ones that are immediately available to you. If the box is 'empty' then you will need to order the document.
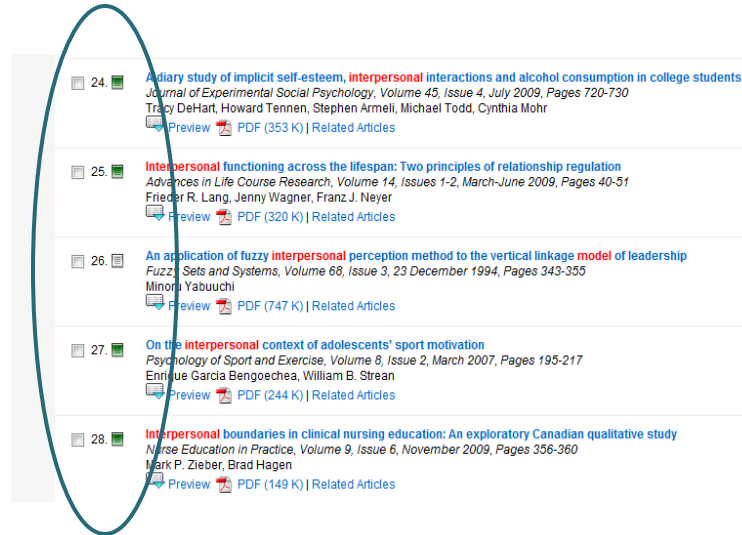
Document Delivery (aka interlibrary loan)

▶ If your item does not have a green box, it is not part of our paid subscriptions and you will need to request it through our Document Delivery service

▶ From our homepage, select Forms, then Document Delivery

▶ You will need your library card to place a request

Contact us!

▸ Please feel free to contact any of the Reference Librarians via telephone, e-mail or chat

▸ Reference Desk: 937.255.5511 x4238

▸ Reference in-box: afrl.wsc.library@wpafb.af.mil